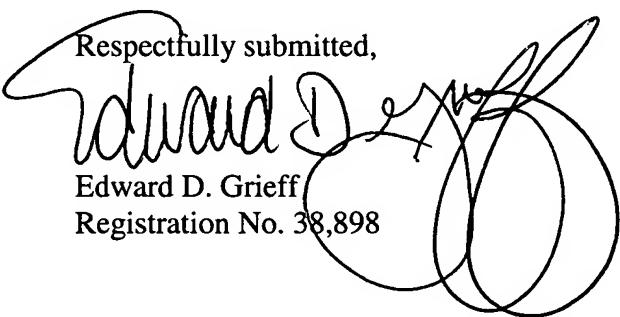


Preliminary Amendment

Added claim 10 is identical to claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,013,002, issued on February 29, 2000. Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.606 and § 1.607, Applicants request that an interference be declared with U.S. Patent No. 6,013,002.

No issues of new matter should arise and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Edward D. Grieff
Registration No. 38,898

Date: December 21, 2001

HALE and DORR LLP
1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: 202-942-8453

Appendix 1 – Pending Claims

a1
~~8. (New) A method of treatment, in an organism, of a vascular condition, comprising administration of at least one agent at a level which enhances NO and which does not appreciably alter normal systemic vascular tone in said organism.~~

*Sub
RG*
~~9. (New) A method for treating sexual dysfunction in a female individual, comprising administering to the vagina, vulvar area and/or urethra of the individual a pharmaceutical formulation that comprises an effective amount of a nitrovasodilator selected from the group consisting of sodium nitroprusside, diazenium diolates, molsidomine, linsidomine chlorohydrate, S-nitrosothiols, organic nitrates, pharmacologically acceptable salts, esters, analogs, derivatives, prodrugs and inclusion complexes of any of the foregoing, and combinations thereof.~~

~~10. (New) A method of enhancing sexuality in a female having a clitoris comprising the step of topically administering to a surface of the clitoris a composition whose primary agent is a vasodilator and whose secondary agent is a carrier in which the vasodilator is dispersed to deliver it directly to said surface so that it is retained and absorbed thereby, said composition being in a formulation and in a dosage which is substantially free of toxicity and therefore does not give rise to an adverse reaction.~~